AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

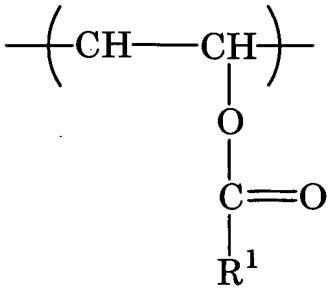
This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

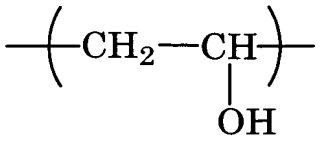
1. (original): A binder resin for coating paste for forming a film or a film pattern comprising inorganic powder by coating,

which comprises a modified polyvinyl acetal resin comprising structural units represented by the following general formulas (1), (2), (3) and (4):

[Chem. 1]



(1)



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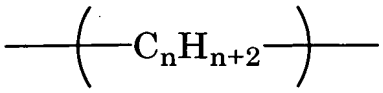

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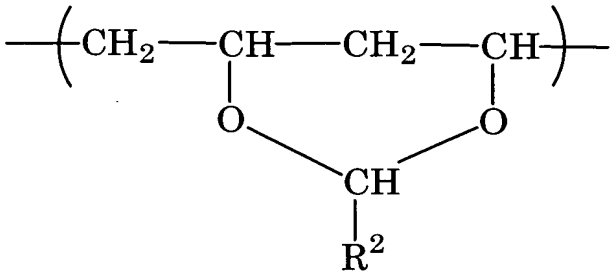


(4)

in the formulas, R^1 represents a straight chain or branched alkyl group having 1 to 20 carbon atoms, and R^2 represents hydrogen, a straight chain, branched or cyclic alkyl group having 1 to 20 carbon atoms, or an aryl group; and n represents an integer of 1 to 8; and further in the modified polyvinyl acetal resin, a content of the structural unit represented by the general formula (3) is 1 to 20 mol% and a content of the structural unit represented by the general formula (4) is 30 to 78 mol%.

2. (original): The binder resin for coating paste according to claim 1,

wherein a content of the structural unit represented by the general formula (2) is 20 to 30 mol%.

3. (currently amended): The binder resin for coating paste according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~,

wherein R^2 is CH_3 and/or C_3H_7.

4. (currently amended): The binder resin for coating paste according to claim 1, ~~2 or 3~~,

wherein an α-terpineol solution of the modified polyvinyl acetal resin adjusted to have viscosity of 6.0 Pa•s measured at 25°C under the conditions of a shear rate of 60 s^{-1} using an E type viscometer has a ratio ($\eta 60/\eta 600$) between viscosity $\eta 60$ measured under the conditions of a shear rate of 60 s^{-1} and viscosity $\eta 600$ measured under the conditions of a shear rate of 600 s^{-1} at 25°C using an E type viscometer being 2.0 to 5.0.

5. (currently amended): The binder resin for coating paste according to claim 1, ~~2 or 3~~,

wherein an α-terpineol solution of the modified polyvinyl acetal resin adjusted to have viscosity of 6.0 Pa•s measured at 25°C under the conditions of a shear rate of 60 s^{-1} using an E type viscometer has a phase angle at 1 Hz and at a stress of 1000 Pa being 87° or more.

6. (currently amended): The binder resin for coating paste according to claim 1, ~~2 or 3~~,

wherein an α-terpineol solution of the modified polyvinyl acetal resin adjusted to have viscosity of 6.0 Pa•s measured at 25°C under the conditions of a shear rate of 60 s^{-1} using an E type viscometer has a ratio ($\eta 600 \rightarrow 60/\eta 600$) between viscosity $\eta 600$ measured at a shear rate of 600 s^{-1} and viscosity $\eta 60$ measured after a lapse of 10 seconds from changing a shear rate to 60 s^{-1} using an E type viscometer being 1.9 or more, in the case of changing a shear rate from 600 s^{-1} to 60 s^{-1} at 25°C.

7. (currently amended): Conductive paste,

which comprises the binder resin for coating paste according to claim 1, ~~2, 3, 4, 5 or 6,~~ conductive powder and an organic solvent.

8. (currently amended): Ceramic paste,

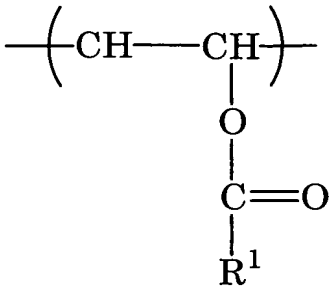
which comprises the binder resin for coating paste according to claim 1, ~~2, 3, 4, 5 or 6,~~ ceramic powder and an organic solvent.

9. (currently amended): Glass paste,

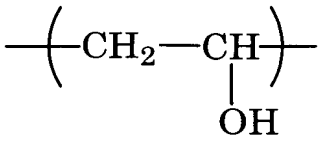
which comprises the binder resin for coating paste according to claim 1, ~~2, 3, 4, 5 or 6,~~ glass powder and an organic solvent.

10. (original): An application as a binder resin for coating paste of a resin composition comprising a modified polyvinyl acetal resin consisting of structural units represented by the following general formulas (1), (2), (3) and (4):

[Chem. 2]



(1)



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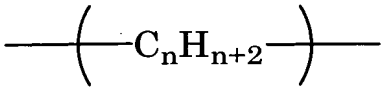

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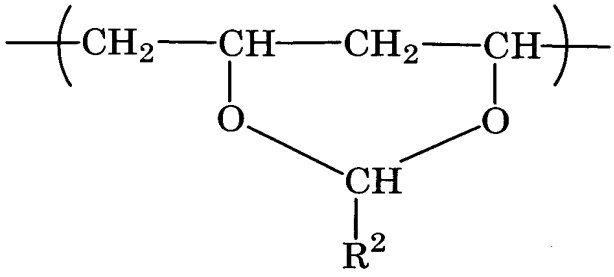


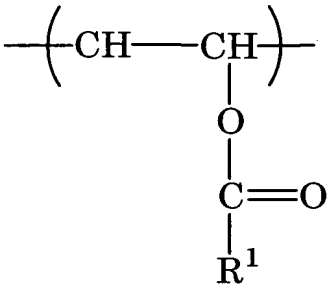
(4)

in the formulas, R^1 represents a straight chain or branched alkyl group having 1 to 20 carbon atoms, and R^2 represents hydrogen, a straight chain, branched or cyclic alkyl group having 1 to 20 carbon atoms, or an aryl group; and n represents an integer of 1 to 8; and further in the modified polyvinyl acetal resin, a content of the structural unit represented by the general formula (3) is 1 to 20 mol% and a content of the structural unit represented by the general formula (4) is 30 to 78 mol%.

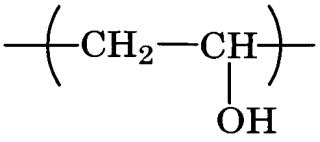
11. (original): A method of forming a film comprising inorganic powder,

which comprises a step of mixing a binder resin for coating paste comprising a modified polyvinyl acetal resin comprising structural units represented by the following general formulas (1), (2), (3) and (4), an organic solvent and inorganic powder, and preparing paste form:

[Chem. 3]



(1)



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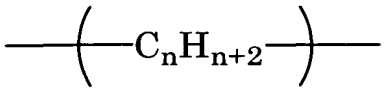

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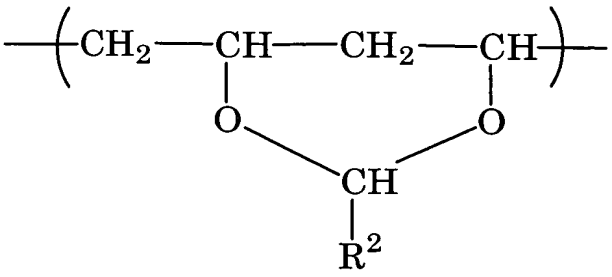

(4)

in the formulas, R^1 represents a straight chain or branched alkyl group having 1 to 20 carbon atoms, and R^2 represents hydrogen, a straight chain, branched or cyclic alkyl group having 1 to 20 carbon atoms, or an aryl group; and n represents an integer of 1 to 8; and further in the modified polyvinyl acetal resin, a content of the structural unit represented by the general formula (3) is 1 to 20 mol% and a content of the structural unit represented by the general formula (4) is 30 to 78 mol%.

12. (new): The binder resin for coating paste according to claim 2,

wherein R^2 is CH_3 and/or C_3H_7.

13. (new): The binder resin for coating paste according to claim 2,

wherein an α-terpineol solution of the modified polyvinyl acetal resin adjusted to have viscosity of 6.0 Pa•s measured at 25°C under the conditions of a shear rate of 60 s^{-1} using an E type viscometer has a ratio (η60/η600) between viscosity η60 measured under the conditions of a shear rate of 60 s^{-1} and viscosity η600 measured under the conditions of a shear rate of 600 s^{-1} at 25°C using an E type viscometer being 2.0 to 5.0.

14. (new): The binder resin for coating paste according to claim 3,

wherein an α-terpineol solution of the modified polyvinyl acetal resin adjusted to have viscosity of 6.0 Pa•s measured at 25°C under the conditions of a shear rate of 60 s^{-1} using an E type viscometer has a ratio (η60/η600) between viscosity η60 measured under the conditions of

a shear rate of 60 s^{-1} and viscosity $\eta 600$ measured under the conditions of a shear rate of 600 s^{-1} at 25°C using an E type viscometer being 2.0 to 5.0.

15. (new): The binder resin for coating paste according to claim 2,

wherein an α-terpineol solution of the modified polyvinyl acetal resin adjusted to have viscosity of 6.0 Pa•s measured at 25°C under the conditions of a shear rate of 60 s^{-1} using an E type viscometer has a phase angle at 1 Hz and at a stress of 1000 Pa being 87° or more.

16. (new): The binder resin for coating paste according to claim 3,

wherein an α-terpineol solution of the modified polyvinyl acetal resin adjusted to have viscosity of 6.0 Pa•s measured at 25°C under the conditions of a shear rate of 60 s^{-1} using an E type viscometer has a phase angle at 1 Hz and at a stress of 1000 Pa being 87° or more.

17. (new): The binder resin for coating paste according to claim 2,

wherein an α-terpineol solution of the modified polyvinyl acetal resin adjusted to have viscosity of 6.0 Pa•s measured at 25°C under the conditions of a shear rate of 60 s^{-1} using an E type viscometer has a ratio ($\eta 600 \rightarrow 60/\eta 600$) between viscosity $\eta 600$ measured at a shear rate of 600 s^{-1} and viscosity $\eta 60$ measured after a lapse of 10 seconds from changing a shear rate to 60 s^{-1} using an E type viscometer being 1.9 or more, in the case of changing a shear rate from 600 s^{-1} to 60 s^{-1} at 25°C.

18. (new): The binder resin for coating paste according to claim 3,

wherein an α-terpineol solution of the modified polyvinyl acetal resin adjusted to have viscosity of 6.0 Pa•s measured at 25°C under the conditions of a shear rate of 60 s^{-1} using an E type viscometer has a ratio ($\eta 600 \rightarrow 60/\eta 600$) between viscosity $\eta 600$ measured at a shear rate of 600 s^{-1} and viscosity $\eta 60$ measured after a lapse of 10 seconds from changing a shear rate to 60 s^{-1} using an E type viscometer being 1.9 or more, in the case of changing a shear rate from 600 s^{-1} to 60 s^{-1} at 25°C.

19. (new): Conductive paste,

which comprises the binder resin for coating paste according to claim 2, conductive powder and an organic solvent.

20. (new): Conductive paste,

which comprises the binder resin for coating paste according to claim 3, conductive powder and an organic solvent.